

S-E-C-R-E-T

21 June 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Bureau Chiefs
FROM: Chief, FBIS
SUBJECT: Letter of Information

GENERAL

1. FBIS-BBC Coordination Meeting: [redacted] 50X1
BBC Monitoring Service, paid an official visit to FBIS 27-31 May to participate in the annual meeting of the FBIS-BBC Monitoring Service Coordination Committee. In addition to representing the BBC at the formal meeting 29 May, [redacted] discussed matters of mutual interest with senior FBIS personnel, and visited the East Coast Bureau where he expressed particular interest in the mobile monitoring unit. [redacted] 50X1

2. Selection and Processing Guidance: The Liaison and Requirements Staff distributed to field bureaus and headquarters components a list of the basic documents currently providing guidance on editorial selection and processing. Attached was a reproduction of the April statement by a DD/I special assistant noting those subjects of greatest interest to U.S. policymakers. Similar statements will be forwarded to the field in the future. [redacted] 50X1

3. Wire Service Recipients: In reply to a Wire Service survey, the Joint Communications Agency at Fort Ritchie, Maryland, reported that, in addition to serving the Joint Staff Communications Office, it has been relaying the FBIS Wire file to a Navy Liaison Group for the Chief of Naval Operations and the Navy Communications Center, to the White House Communications Agency at Blue Ridge Summit in Pennsylvania, and to the National Emergency Command Post Afloat on the USS Northampton. Replying to the same survey, the office of the Commander in Chief, Atlantic, noted that the FBIS Wire service provides direct support to the CINCLANT Current Intelligence and Indications Center (CIIC) and that it is relayed to other CINCLANT/CINCLANTFLT staff members and occasionally to subordinate commands. [redacted] 50X1

Group 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

S-E-C-R-E-T

S-E-C-R-E-T

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4. President's Foreign Policy Speech: At White House request, a Special Memorandum was prepared for the President on a crash basis on 12 June reviewing initial foreign radio and press reaction to his 10 June foreign policy speech at American University. Copies of the memorandum were sent to the Secretaries of State and Defense and the Director of USIA, as well as to the DCI, DDCI, and DD/I. A fuller account of worldwide reaction to the speech was provided for general dissemination in a World Reaction Series supplement to the Daily Report on 14 June, with the customary support from field bureaus. A propaganda-analysis item on the FBIS Wire discussed the first authoritative Soviet reaction to the speech, a Khrushchev "interview" with Pravda and Izvestiya editors released several hours after the Reaction Series supplement went to press. [REDACTED]

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50X1

5. Soviet Leadership Studies: A compilation of RPB reports and articles bearing on the Soviet leadership situation from the 1957 purges through mid-April 1963 was assembled at DD/I request in support of the current priority studies of Khrushchev's position and the problem of succession. The 650-page volume is classified Confidential. It is divided into sections covering the fortunes of individual leaders, trends in key policies associated with Khrushchev, regime policies and problems in the sensitive field of culture and de-Stalinization, and the role of the Soviet military leadership in politics and the making of policy. An index lists the reports containing information about each high-ranking leader. Copies will be distributed to a list of recipients including the White House, the DCI, and officials and specialists in the Agency and the Department of State. Copies will also be made available to the BBC, and will be sent to FBIS bureaus on request. [REDACTED]

50X1

6. Radio Propaganda Reports: [REDACTED]

50X1

a. The second in the new series tracing the public appearances of members of the CPSU Presidium and Secretariat was issued as RS.58.

b. CD.227, "Slowdown in Havana's Latin American Program," documented a general toning down of Havana's campaign to promote violent revolution in Latin America and a tendency in Cuban propaganda to treat OAS measures against communism as a more serious threat to Castro's goals.

- 2 -

S-E-C-R-E-T

S-E-C-R-E-T

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7. Special Propaganda-Analysis Services:

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a. RPB items prepared for Wire dissemination continued to call attention to significant developments in the pattern of communist comment on the Laotian situation.

b. Analysis support cables for the U.S. delegation to the Geneva disarmament talks continued, supplementing the selections of raw copy supplied to Geneva by field bureaus. Cable No. 238 was dispatched on 14 June.

c. Briefings of a special Agency group concerned with the situation in Tibet are continuing on a weekly basis.

d. A search of Peking and Tirana propaganda since last fall for authoritative comment on the Soviet proposal for a NATO-Warsaw Treaty nonaggression pact, undertaken at the request of INR, Department of State, produced a negative finding. Discussion of the proposal from both sources appears to have been rare and at a low level of authoritativeness.

8. Daily Report Supplement: A supplement containing material from the May Bulgarian Communist Party expanded Central Committee plenum was published on 12 June.

50X1

9. References to Espionage: FBIS reports on the Wynne-Penkovskiy spy trial in Moscow caused considerable interest in the Agency's office of Historical Intelligence Collection, which made special distribution of certain FBIS items on the case. The Curator of Historical Intelligence Collection noted that FBIS material concerning espionage and allied topics is kept on file for reference purposes.

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10. Press Scrutiny: In May 88 percent of Daily Report pages was devoted to radio broadcast material and 12 percent to press scrutiny.

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- 3 -

S-E-C-R-E-T

S-E-C-R-E-T

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FIELD OPERATIONS

11. Broadcasting Stations of the World: The Government Printing Office hopes to complete publication of Broadcasting Stations of the World in late July. Distribution to Bureaus is normally one set. Requirements beyond this or alterations to distribution listed with the Liaison and Requirements Staff should be referred to that staff as soon as possible. [REDACTED]

50X1

12. Communications Equipment: Bureaus are asked to keep the Field Operations Staff informed of their progress and experience with the nontechnical aspects of conversion to operation with the M-28 communications equipment. Since the communications modernization program represents a major development in this area of bureau operations, detailed reports on the subject would be appreciated. [REDACTED]

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ADMINISTRATION

13. Regulatory Issuances: The following regulatory issuances were disseminated: [REDACTED]

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50X1

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OFFICIAL USE ONLY

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EDITORIAL

1. "Summary" Processing: The processing indicators "summary" or "summary with quotations" should not be used to permit the omission of a very few nonessential phrases or sentences from what is essentially a full text or excerpt. The summary remains an appropriate and useful device for elimination of unnecessary verbiage. However, when only a few sentences or phrases can be omitted without injury or distortion of the sense of the item, it should be texted. When considerable portions can be compressed through paraphrase, the item may be summarized, but significant passages should be quoted, thus providing consumers with the exact wording of these passages.

2. Processing of Briefs: Caution should be exercised in filing to headquarters as "briefs" items which report the travels of party and government leaders and delegations of major countries. While the original brevity of such reports may suggest that they easily lend themselves to "brief" processing, their substance frequently requires that such items be filed promptly as texts by the FBIS Wire Service and published by the Daily Report under full sourcelines. Field filing of such short reports as individual texts, excerpts, or summaries, as appropriate, also calls attention to the fact that they are of more than routine importance.

ADMINISTRATION1. ReassignmentsFromTo

Senior Editor
Editorial Branch

Liaison Officer
Liaison &
Requirements Staff

STAT

Editor
East Coast Bureau

Editor
London Bureau

Teletype Supervisor
Editorial Branch

Teletype Supervisor
Tokyo Bureau

2. Separations

Editor
Editorial Branch

STAT

Mail & File Clerk
Administrative Staff

(Military)

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